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Proposal: Health insurance for all by 2012

All Americans should have access to a basic benefit package of affordable health care by 2012 — and a program to protect Americans from catastrophic health care costs should be established before then, say proposed recommendations released Friday by the Citizens' Health Care Working Group. Congress established the group to find out how Americans want to change the health care system. The group says it heard from about 23,000 people through online polls, community meetings in 31 cities and written comments. After a 90-day public comment period, its final recom-After a 90-day public comment period, its final recommendations will be sent to Congress and the president.